

called upon to consider"; and, in verity, we so-called alienists are having our turn now. If there are any "speciosities" in our system, the medical press seem determined that they "can no longer be"; and I see that in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for July 1st, in a leading article under the above heading, you publish an elaborate condemnation of the present system. There is no doubt much that is true in your article; and as one of those therein put on their trial, I trust you will allow me to make a few observations.

Respecting the impropriety of the medical officers of asylums wasting their time and energies in the getting up of grand entertainments, I have as strong an opinion as yourself. In the asylum to which I am Superintendent, we have a dance once a week during the winter months; but it is managed entirely by the chief attendants; and the medical officers scarcely ever enter the room. So with all the other amusements got up for the benefit of the patients.

The part, however, of your article which will without doubt chiefly wound the susceptibilities of myself and my *confrères*, is that wherein you follow the fashion set of late by one or two other papers and sneer at our medical knowledge. You infer that a Medical Superintendent is, as a rule, behind an ordinary medical practitioner in the general knowledge of his profession, and that this is necessarily so, as he comes directly from the schools to engage in a specialty giving but few opportunities of practising general medicine. Now, sir, facts are stubborn things, and I wish to give you a few *apropos* of this.

I do not know how it may be across the Tweed, where the asylums, as a rule, are small; but here in England, where the asylum population is much larger, we see plenty of general medicine. In the asylum to which I belong, there is a population, counting sane and insane, of nearly nine hundred people of all ages. This is a good-sized village, and probably as large as the general run of country doctors' constituents. Looking through my case-books, I find that I have had to treat the following cases since this time last year; viz., strangulated hernia; fractures of tibia, fibula, ribs, and humerus; necrosis of tibia, femur, tarsal, and metacarpal bones; scirrhus of mamma; scirrhus of uterus; carbuncle; fevers; pneumonia; bronchitis; phthisis; morbus cordis; hæmatemesis; hæmoptysis; apoplexy; psoas abscess; lumbar abscess; nasal polypi; prolapsus uteri; prolapsus recti; various skin-diseases; uterine complaints; indigestion; diarrhoea; angina pectoris; iritis; cataract; etc. And yet I am told in your leading article that I have no opportunity of studying the ordinary branches of my profession.

Again, it is said that Medical Superintendents are so engrossed with their administrative duties that they have no time to devote to the advancement of the literature and practice of their profession. Surely people who make such statements cannot be aware that for more than twenty years we have maintained a high class quarterly devoted to the specialty, and which has been edited with acknowledged ability by asylum superintendents, and to which articles have been contributed on all sorts of subjects by the majority of English superintendents. Why, at the present moment, out of the little more than thirty English superintendents, fifteen are engaged in literary pursuits, and constantly contribute to the current medical literature of the day. And this list does not include such distinguished ex-superintendents as Bucknill, F.R.S., Lockhart Robertson, Maudsley, Boyd, Sankey, etc., whose fame is European.

No drug of any note is introduced to the medical world that is not eagerly seized upon, and extensively tried by asylum medical officers. We had probably used pounds of chloral before even its name was familiar to the majority of English practitioners. Bromide of potassium was first used extensively for epilepsy in asylums. The Turkish bath, the water treatment, the use in insanity of digitalis, subcutaneous injection of morphia, chloroform, Calabar bean, hydrocyanic acid, ergot, etc., have all been introduced to the notice of the profession by asylum superintendents; and when it is remembered how small our numbers are, surely, with the above fact before us, we cannot be justly accused of such utter disregard for the advancement of professional knowledge.

But, probably, the part of your article most open to objection is that in which you would appear to advocate the appointment of lay-superintendents, and deride the so-called moral treatment. Doubtless, under the shelter of moral treatment, much abuse has crept in; nevertheless it undoubtedly is the corner-stone of the non-restraint system, without which the whole edifice, so carefully built up by Pinel and Conolly, would totter to the ground; and, although probably its benefits have been much over-rated by enthusiasts, no man of any experience can deny its importance. It appears to me impossible that the thousand and one arrangements incidental to the management of an asylum can be made by anyone but a medical man. To give you only one or two instances. In cases of recent insanity, nothing is so likely to cause a relapse as the too early visit of relatives. And, as we all know, a relapse in a case of acute insanity, frequently means chronic insanity or

dementia as sequel. How can a lay superintendent decide when it is safe to admit such visits. I have frequently known an injudicious letter from a friend do great harm. Most assuredly, carefully regulated and varied employments are very essential to the well-being of lunatics, and frequently promote a return to reason. But, to be used to any advantage, this requires an intimate knowledge of the cases such as only the doctor can have. Such examples could be multiplied *ad infinitum*, and yet you ask, "Is there anything more complicated in the management of a lunatic asylum than of a workhouse or prison?"

I am, etc.,

S. W. D. W.

## OBITUARY.

THOMAS HAWKES TANNER, M.D., M.R.C.P.

WITH deep regret we record the death of one of the most accomplished members of the profession. Thomas Hawkes Tanner, son of Thomas Tanner, Esq., for many years Secretary to the Army Medical Board, was born in London, on July 9th, 1824. He received his early education at Messrs. Wood and Thorowgood's school at Totteridge, and afterwards at the Charterhouse, where he met with a severe accident, which rendered his health delicate for many years. In 1843, he became a medical student at King's College, and served in its hospital as dresser to Mr. Simon and Sir William Fergusson, as well as clinical clerk to Drs. Guy, Arthur Farre, and Todd. In 1847, he passed the College of Surgeons, and in the same year was appointed House-Physician to King's College Hospital, became an Associate of King's College, and took the degree of M.D. at St. Andrew's. He commenced practice in Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square, in the latter part of 1847, and was soon afterwards elected Physician to the Farringdon Dispensary. In 1850, he became a Member of the Royal College of Physicians, and in the course of the following year was appointed Physician to the Hospital for Women, Soho Square, and lectured on Forensic Medicine at the Westminster Hospital Medical School. In 1854, he published a *Manual of the Practice of Medicine*, which has run rapidly through several large editions. So popular has this work been, alike with medical men and with students, that in 1869 the sixth edition was published in two large volumes. Among other proofs of its success, may be mentioned the fact that this, together with five other works by Dr. Tanner, have had an extensive circulation in America, but without any remuneration either to the author or to the publisher. His chief works have been: 1, *Practice of Medicine*; 2, *On the Signs and Diseases of Pregnancy*; 3, *Manual of Clinical Medicine*; 4, *Practical Treatise on the Diseases of Childhood*; 5, *Memoiranda on Poisons*; 6, *Index of Diseases*; 7, *A Clinical Report on Cancer of the Female Sexual Organs*; and many articles and reviews contributed to the various medical journals. Throughout the wide range of their subjects, we notice an eminently practical tendency, and the style of a writer who holds firmly the conclusions at which he has arrived by clinical observation made during an extensive practice.

In 1858, Dr. Tanner, in concert with Dr. Tyler Smith, Dr. Rigby, and Dr. Graily Hewitt, took an active part in the formation of the Obstetrical Society of London, and acted as its Secretary from the time of its foundation until the close of 1863. He contributed several valuable papers to the volumes of *Transactions*, and was elected one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society on his retirement from the post of Honorary Secretary.

In 1860, Dr. Tanner was elected Assistant-Physician for the Diseases of Women and Children to King's College Hospital, and thereupon retired from office as Physician to the Hospital for Women, and resigned also his place as Lecturer on Forensic Medicine in the Westminster Hospital Medical School. While holding his appointment in King's College Hospital, which he resigned in 1863, Dr. Tanner lectured on Obstetrics to the class of midwifery pupils supported by Miss Nightingale. Since the date of his resignation, his private practice has been very extensive. In 1862, he removed from Charlotte Street to Henrietta Street, Cavendish Square. Previously to this, his career had not been so prosperous as many might imagine. He had fought an uphill fight, but always confident in his certainty of success. He had an excellent memory, a mind well cultured and richly stored; he had great literary power, as shown by his works, and was most orderly and accurate in every minutia. Few have stronger feelings than he had about the proper remuneration of medical men, but none have deeper sympathies with the poor; and, out of his six thousand registered gratuitous patients, numbers will feel that they have lost their best earthly friend. Dr. Tanner was a man of great taste, as all who may have seen his splendid library must have recognised.

In 1854, he had an attack of scarlet fever, which left evidence of

renal congestion. The necessary work and anxiety of a physician's large London practice never enabled him to lay by and eradicate the disease, and thus by degrees it crept on and began to tell on his general health. Scarcely had he completed and published his sixth edition of the *Practice of Medicine* when the disease (Bright's), which had been long smouldering, appeared with unmistakable clearness; and by degrees the state of his health became so serious that last April he determined to relinquish practice for a time and go to Brighton for complete rest and change. Uræmic symptoms came on shortly afterwards, and four weeks of great suffering put an end to this valuable life. He died at Brighton, on July 7th, two days before the completion of his forty-seventh year. He was married in 1859, and leaves a widow and four children. According to his express wish, he was buried (on Thursday, the 13th) at Highgate Cemetery, in the least ostentatious way possible. Many friends, who wished to pay their last tribute of respect, joined the relations at the cemetery, and followed him to his resting-place.

## UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

The following gentlemen have been nominated Examiners for medical degrees during the ensuing academical year. *First M.B. Examination:* Coutts Trotter, M.A., Fellow and Natural Sciences Lecturer in Trinity College; W. P. Hiern, M.A., late Fellow of St. John's College. *Second M.B. Examination:* The Regius Professor of Physic (*ex officio*); John Wood, F.R.S., F.R.C.S., Professor of Surgery, King's College, London; J. B. Bradbury, M.D., Medical Lecturer in Downing College and Physician to Addenbrooke's Hospital. *Third M.B. Examination:* The Regius Professor of Physic (*ex officio*); Herbert Davies, M.D., late Fellow of Queen's College, Physician to the London Hospital; J. W. Ogle, M.A., M.D. Oxon, Physician to St. George's Hospital.

Dr. Barclay, Physician to St. George's Hospital, has been nominated Assessor to the Regius Professor of Physic.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following gentlemen passed their primary examinations in anatomy and physiology, at a meeting of the Court of Examiners, on July 18th; and, when eligible, will be admitted to the pass examination.

Messrs. G. Warner Bell, W. C. K. Foster, S. William Douglas, George R. Steil, and W. E. N. Erith (Students of University College Hospital); James Ritchie, Francis Imlach, H. Macdonald Church, and Edwin Hinchcliff (Edinburgh School); J. Christopher Irving, and J. Randell Burton (Guy's Hospital); Arthur J. Vouse, and Albert E. Kirby (Leeds School); Frederick W. Corry, and Francis Johnson (London Hospital); James H. Stowers (St. Bartholomew's Hospital); R. Campbell Fair (Canada); Matthew J. Fitzpatrick (Dublin); John D. Jennings (Birmingham School); and John B. Stuart (Liverpool School).

The following gentlemen passed on July 19th.

Messrs. Peter Bradford, Henry C. Lang, Harold Rugg, Oliver Barber, J. G. R. Symons, Richard St. M. Dawes, and Maurice Eskell (Students of University College); H. J. F. Groves, William Y. Davenport, Richard D. Hughes, Joseph H. Townend, Daniel Nunez, and Evan M. Boddy (Guy's Hospital); John M. Hart, W. C. G. Collins, G. T. B. Moffatt, R. Leymans Bridges, B.A. Oxon, and Lonsdale A. Holden (St. Bartholomew's Hospital); Charles Hartley (Charing Cross Hospital); and Charles F. Grindrod (St. Mary's Hospital).

The following gentlemen passed on July 20th.

Messrs. J. W. Greenwood, Daniel A. Sinclair, W. S. Mavor, E. Welchman, C. G. Johnson, G. E. Wherry (St. Thomas's Hospital); Herbert B. Blackburn, George F. Keer, J. Sutherland Wilkins, William J. Gard, and W. Jackson Heddy (Guy's Hospital); H. C. M. Gibson, Theophilus G. Vawdrey, Edwin M. Redman (University College); Matthew A. Messiter, Charles Lakin, and Hyacinth D'A. Ellis (Birmingham); Rees R. Llewellyn, and W. A. Grogano (London Hospital); Arthur Kirkpatrick, and Robert F. Samuels (Liverpool School); T. W. F. Gray, and Montague Ford (Charing Cross Hospital); Francis E. Atkinson (St. Mary's Hospital); William Coulter (Belfast School); and Campbell W. Pridmore (Westminster Hospital).

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received their certificates to practise, on Thursday, July 13th, 1871.

Briggs, Henry Myddleton, Birmingham  
Lyons, Isidor Isaac, St. John's Wood  
Richards, George Pickering, Newman Street, Oxford Street  
Rix, Benjamin, East Meon, Hants  
Thornton, William Pugin, Canterbury  
Williams, Edward, Llandyssil, South Wales

The following gentleman also on the same day passed his first professional examination.

Garrard, William Arthur, Guy's Hospital

As Assistants in compounding and dispensing medicines.

Gould, Eli, Reddall Hill, near Dudley  
Holmes, Nathaniel W., Chorlton-on-Medlock  
Pollard, William, Wakefield

## MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

ABERFOYLE, Perthshire—Parochial Medical Officer.  
BIRMINGHAM and MIDLAND FREE HOSPITAL for SICK CHILDREN—Resident Medical Officer.  
BOURNEMOUTH GENERAL DISPENSARY—Resident Surgeon.  
BRADFORD (Yorkshire) INFIRMARY and DISPENSARY—Physician.  
BURY (Lancashire) DISPENSARY—Resident Medical Officer.  
CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL—Physician.  
DERBYSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY, Derby—Resident Assistant House-Surgeon; Two Dental Surgeons; Non-Resident Dispenser.  
FARINGDON UNION, Berks—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Buckland District.  
GAINSBOROUGH, Lincolnshire—Medical Officer of Health.  
GENERAL HOSPITAL and DISPENSARY for SICK CHILDREN, Bridge Street, Manchester—Resident Medical Officer.  
GUISBOROUGH UNION, Yorkshire—Medical Officer for the Danby District.  
HEREFORD GENERAL INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon.  
HUDDERSFIELD and UPPER AGBRIGG INFIRMARY—Physician; House-Surgeon.  
INFIRMARY for EPILEPSY and PARALYSIS, Charles Street, Portman Square—Physician.  
KILLALA, co. Mayo—Medical Attendant to the Royal Irish Constabulary.  
KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL—Assistant-Physician; Assistant Surgeon.  
LOUDDON, Ayrshire—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator.  
LOYAL EARL OF LONSDALE LODGE OF ODD FELLOWS, Bampton, Cumberland—Medical Attendant.  
METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL, Devonshire Square—Assistant-Physician.  
MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE—Lecturer on Physiology, including Practical Physiology.  
NEWBURY UNION, Berks—Medical Officer for the Thatcham District.  
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE LYING-IN HOSPITAL—Visiting Surgeon for the Out-department.  
PLYMOUTH INCORPORATION OF THE POOR—Medical Officer for the Northern District.  
ST. PANCRAS—Dispenser for the Dispensary for Out-door Poor, King's Road.  
SANDAY, Orkney, Island of—Medical Officer.  
SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL (late *Dreadnought*)—House-Physician; House-Surgeon.  
SKIRLAUGH UNION, Yorkshire—Medical Officer for the Skirlaugh District and the Workhouse.  
WATERFORD UNION—Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator, and Registrar of Births, etc., for the Kilmedden Dispensary District.  
WEST LONDON HOSPITAL—Junior Physician; House-Surgeon.  
WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL—Surgeon; Assistant Surgeon.  
WIRRAL HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY FOR SICK CHILDREN, Birkhead—Honorary Medical Officer.

## MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Names marked with an asterisk are those of Members of the Association.

BUCKLEY, Dr., appointed Medical Officer for the Clane and Timahoe North Dispensary District of the Naas Union, co. Kildare.  
DREW, John, M.B., M.C., appointed Medical Officer for the parish of Logie, Clackmannanshire.  
\*GARNHAM, J. Devereux, Esq., appointed Medical Officer to Nos. 2 and 11 Districts of the Lincoln Union.  
LOUGH, John Joseph, M.B., appointed Medical Officer for the Termon Dispensary District of the Balieborough Union, co. Cavan.  
MC CRAITH, Edward, L.R.C.P. Edin., appointed Medical Officer for the Mitcheltown Dispensary District of the Mitcheltown Union, co. Cork.  
MACFARLANE, Wm. D., L.R.C.P. Edin., appointed Medical Officer for the Carmun-nock and Busby District of the parish of Mearns, Lanarkshire.  
MADDEVER, John C., M.D., appointed Medical Officer for the parish of Rothesay.  
PALFREY, James, M.D., appointed Physician-Accoucheur to the Out Patients at the General Lying-in Hospital, *vice* \*Alfred Meadows, M.D., resigned.  
\*SHEEH, Alfred, M.D., appointed Surgeon in Ordinary to the Cardiff Infirmary, *vice* J. R. Reece, Esq., resigned.  
SKINNER, S., M.D., appointed one of the Medical Officers to the Clevedon, Walton, and Tichenham Dispensary, *vice* \*Theodore Davis, M.D., resigned.  
STITT, Adam, L.F.P.S. Glasg., appointed Medical Officer for the parish of Lochmaben, Dumfriesshire.  
STONEV, Hugh B., M.B., appointed Medical Officer for the Durrow Dispensary District of the Abbeyleix Union, Queen's County.  
SWAN, R. Jocelyn, M.R.C.S.E., appointed Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the No. 2 District of the Northleach Union, Gloucestershire.  
SYMES, Edmond West, M.B. Edin., elected Senior Resident Medical Officer to the Leeds Public Dispensary, *vice* \*J. M. Fothergill, M.D., resigned.  
\*WORKMAN, Charles J., M.D., appointed Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Teignmouth, Dawlish, and Newton Infirmary.

LINCOLN MEDICAL SOCIETY.—This society held its ninth annual summer meeting at Drinsey Nook, near Lincoln, on July 11th. The President, Mr. F. D. Walsh, opened the meeting with an address on subjects of general interest to the profession, and concluded with a short paper on paralysis of the insane. New members were made; and Mr. D. J. Garnham of Lincoln was unanimously elected President for the next season. The meeting was brought to a close with a vote of thanks to the honorary secretary, Mr. Male, of the Lincoln County Hospital. The members afterwards dined *à fresco*, and a pleasant afternoon was spent.